

FEB 28 2007

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated November 30, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on February 28, 2007. Applicants request entry and consideration of the above noted amendments and the following remarks in response to the Office Action.

Claims 1, 6-11, 14-19, 24-25, 28-30, 33, 35-38, and 41-42 are currently pending in the application. Applicants have amended claims 1, 16, 29, 33, and 42.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the Interview on January 30, 2007, where we discussed the references as accurately reflected in the Interview Summary dated January 30, 2007.

Claim Rejections35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 6-11, 14-19, 24, 25, 28-30, 33, 35-38, and 41-42 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP-11-060833. Specifically, the Examiner states that the Japanese patent document teaches monolayer heat sealable films made from a composition comprising metallocene-catalyzed propylene copolymer blended with a second propylene polymer.

Applicants have amended claims 1, 16, and 29 to state that the film consists essentially of the metallocene catalyzed, isotactic ethylene-propylene random copolymer with the stated limitations. Applicants have amended claims 42 to be dependent from claim 1. Applicants amended claim 33 in view of the amendments to claim 29. Further amendments to claims 1, 16, and 29 are for clarification purposes. Support for these amendments can be found at the Summary, page 5, first paragraph; page 14, last paragraph; and original claims 4 and 22.

Applicants respectfully argue that the Japanese patent document does not teach or disclose such an inventive film because the Japanese patent document teaches a combination of two polymers to produce a film having specific physical properties, particularly low heat-seal initiation temperature and other physical properties, such as anti-blocking rigidity, etc. Specifically, the Japanese patent document states that "[a]s a result of repeated painstaking investigations to achieve the [object of the invention], the

inventors discovered [the disclosed and claimed] polypropylene composition" which is a combination of a metallocene catalyzed, isotactic propylene random copolymer and a conventional catalyzed propylene random copolymer. The Japanese patent document states that without both polymers, the object of the invention would not be achieved. (See paragraph [0016] of the Japanese patent document).

The inventive film consists essentially of the stated copolymer that has low seal-initiation temperature and other good physical properties. Furthermore, the inventive film has good haze and good gloss properties.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 6-11, 14-19, 24, 25, 28-30, 33, 35-38, and 41-42 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP-11-060833 and also as being unpatentable over EP 0-669-348 A-1 in view of JP-11-060833 (or the converse).

As mentioned above, Applicants have amended claims 1, 16, 29, and 42. Therefore, the references, neither alone nor in combination, teach or suggest the currently claimed invention. There is no motivation or suggestion to combine these two references.

In conclusion, Applicants submit that the references cited in the Office Action, neither alone nor in combination, teach, show, or suggest the claimed features. Having addressed all issues set out in the Office Action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Date February 28, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



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